

# BROOKIE NEWS

July 2015



*Illustration "One Last Look - Brook Trout"  
courtesy of Bob White of Whitefish Studio*

## Riffles, Runs and Pools

By President Mike SanDretto

Welcome Jeff Wegand, new editor of the Brookie News. Jeff has spent time working with David Seligman and has talked to people, gathering information and thoughts. I am very happy he is taking on this position. Jeff understands the Brookie News and the impact it has in communicating with members. He was voted into the office as Chapter Secretary during the July Board Meeting. Congratulations and thank you. Thank you again to David Seligman for his years of service in keeping us all well informed as Chapter Secretary and Brookie editor.

The July Picnic Meeting hosted by John and Laura Tucker is always a wonderful event but this year it was truly special! Invitations were sent to all of the past Chapter Presidents and many were able to attend.



*Seated L to R: Jack Wahlers, Tom Poullette  
Standing L to R: Louie Jirikowic, Dave Johnson,  
Linn Beck, Ray Piehl, Dan Harmon, Mike SanDretto,  
Russ Bouck, Jerry Strom, Bob Haase, John Tucker*

It was not only an opportunity for people to get together but also to reflect on the beginnings and development of Central Wisconsin Trout Unlimited. For newer members like myself, it was an opportunity to learn how CWTU became a group so dedicated to local trout habitat, stream restoration and advocacy. Thank you John and Laura and thank you to past chapter presidents for coming and sharing your stories.

We were working on Chaffee Creek at the July 18<sup>th</sup> workday. Working upstream from recent work we are getting closer to the area where the Wedde Creek joins the Chaffee; very good looking trout water. The work dealt with fallen willow trees in the water. While it turned out to be a hot day, it was comfortable working in the water.



*More pics at <http://www.cwtu.org/apps/photos/>*

Work completed and volunteers enjoyed a picnic before the heat of the day set in. Thank you all who participated. Join us for the next workday **August 15<sup>th</sup>** on the West Branch of the White River.

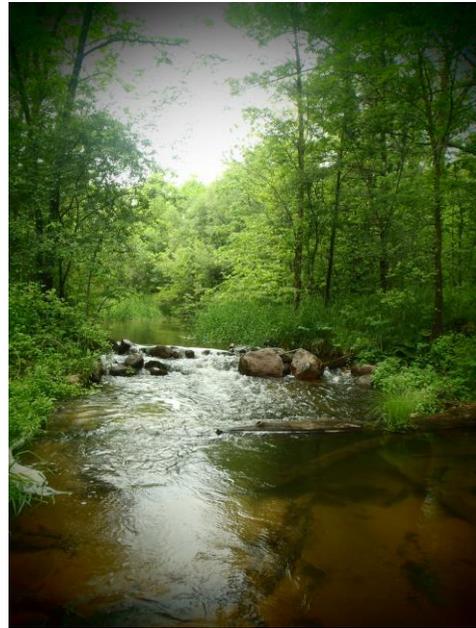
We are forming a team to support the workdays. For some years Scott Bahn has done much of this work himself for all workdays with help from Chris Northway. Scott won't be able to do this in the future as his daughters are now on traveling soccer teams. Scott will continue to be very much involved in CWTU as a Board Member and Conservation Chair. Thank you Scott for your help and commitment to workdays! Going forward, we thought it's best to have a team approach with workdays. Summer is busy and we all end up with family or other commitments. The team is coming together and we will make sure there is food, beverages, tools and whatever else we'll need to be safe and comfortable at our workday. We could use a few more volunteers. If you have never been to a workday this would be a good opportunity to see what fun you have been missing. Be well, enjoy the summer weather and take someone out fishing!

## **Sleepless in Sand County**

By Jeff Wegand

The only time to fish is when you can! Garden was picked and kids were with their friends. The heat of the day was leaving and my mind was wandering to Sand county streams as I viewed the horizon from my porch. My wife casually asks "what are you doing?" I quickly remark "oh nothing." Then without much hesitation she says "do you want to go fishing?" Moments later I throw what I need in my car, give her a kiss and I am on my way not sure where I am going. As I drive through country side I contemplate which lover I will spend the night with: White, Mecan, Willow or the

Pine. It's a very difficult decision but one I never regret regardless where it is. Tonight like most I would spend several moments at the bridges on the way to watch them dance between sand walls and woody debris as they make their way. People pass the bridge in their cars and see me in my waders staring at the river.



It is as if I am back at a grades-school dance hoping one of the pretty girls' shows me a sign. Then just about as I turn my back and head to the car remembering grade-school, I see a rise! Quickly I run back to the car to grab my vest and head lamp as I say to myself "never leave a rising fish." I slowly step into the water to not make a sound and stand knee deep in cold water. Patiently waiting I see another rise. Moments later the fish rises again. Oh yeah! Arrogantly, I say under my breath "this is a very catchable fish." He rises about every minute and I am so excited I can hardly contain myself. I put on a size 16 no hackle deer hair caddis. I have a friend that refers to this fly as a cheese burger and a likely bet for the beginning of my night. The river bends slightly to the right and the fish is rising 30

ft away close to the bank with no back cast. I try a roll cast and I still am about 18 in away from where I need to be. I pause for a minute and eventually he rises again. I try a false cast with haul and I can hear my fly hit a tree behind me. I decide to strip out line behind me and so the river will load my rod underneath the trees. My forearm comes forward and I twist my wrist to put a curve cast in the line. The fly goes 35 ft right next to the bank. The fly is about to go right over the head of the trout. 3-2-1...nothing...no reward. Humbled, I think to myself "Is it the presentation/cast, the leader/tippet or the fly?" Regardless, these guys are obstinate tonight. Soon I will be witness to a pink, orange and yellow Waushara sunset. My shadow will disappear and I think to myself "these fish will be much more willing!"

## **CWTU Board of**

### **Directors Meeting 7/14/15**

"Where the Rivers Meet," Saxesville, WI

Meeting called to order by President Sandretto at 6:30 p.m. at home of John and Laura Tuckers

#### **Introduction and Welcome of Past**

**Presidents.** John Tucker welcomes 12 of CWTU's Past Presidents. We have had 21 presidents total since March of 1971. Tom Poullette was able to attend representing 1<sup>st</sup> president. Only three presidents are deceased Arling Erickson, Gene West, Bob Hedging. Presidents unable to attend were Dick Kraus, Mark Brosseau, Bob Chamberlain, John Gremmer, and Mike Stapleton.

**Minutes Meeting May 19, 2015** approved as distributed.

**Treasurer's Report** was approved balance sheet was distributed.

**Congratulations to New Chapter Secretary and Brookie Editor Jeff Wegand Follow up on 2015 Fly Fishing School** by Dan Harmon III. 38<sup>th</sup> annual fly fishing school was again very successful according to students. A special thanks to Scott & Carolyn Grady, John Gremmer, Bob Haase, Russ and Sue Bouck, kitchen crew and all the guides that make this fly fishing school so successful and one of the best!

**Follow up on Greater WI Outdoor Sportsman Festival** by Bob Haase. Festival had 2000 kids attending and 836 kids tied flies at our booth.

#### **Renaming Lawrence Creek Fish and Wildlife Area to Honor Bob Hunt**

CWTU has suggested in the past to renaming Lawrence Creek Fish and Wildlife Area to Bob Hunt. CWTU to work with Hornberg Chapter as the Lawrence Creek Fish and Wildlife Area is in both Marquette and Adams counties. They will form a committee to study the idea and make recommendations to the WITU State Council. Linn Beck and Duke Welter have helped form the plan. Mike San Dretto has contacted Matt Salchert, Hornberg President. Hornberg will discuss at their August meeting. CWTU will continue Bob Hunt series which focus of science of trout habitat.

**Open Position Update** by Mike Sandretto reiterated we have 2 open board positions of vice president and work day coordinator. Both positions provide needed strength to the chapter. Mike wanted to thank Bob Jozowski to heading up River Keepers, Jeff Wegand for filling secretary and Brookie editor, and Russ and Sue Bouck for heading up casting clinic.

#### **No old business**

**New business** Russ and Sue commented they will have small fly boxes for youth at this year's banquet.

\*\*\*Elward commented that the chapter was started because Thorstad creek was damned

creating Alpine Lake. Willow was once class 1 fishery☹

\*\*\* Lou Jirikowic reminisced with others and discussed how he likes to fish our area before land and water have been mismanaged. We all should get out and enjoy the cold water we are trying to conserve, protect and restore!

**Motion to Adjourn**

## Summer TU Youth Camp

Pictures from David Seligman



*DNR Youth fishing presentation on Radley Creek*



*Al Niebur discussing trout shocking*

## Upcoming Events

### CWTU Summer Picnic Tuesday, August 11, 2015

*Hosted by Mike San Dretto  
Winnebago County Community Park  
501 East County Rd Y (Sunnyview Rd.)  
cwtu.org*

### Farm to Fork Dinner in the Field Saturday, August 15, 2015

*W12085 Czech Ave, Richford, WI  
(630)-567-0104  
<http://www.freshforlifeorganics.com/Farm-to-Fork.html> or <http://friendsofcs.org/>*

### CWTU Workday Saturday, August 15, 2015

*West Branch of the White where it crosses County Y  
Contact Scott Bahn at [sabahnrodco@new.rr.com](mailto:sabahnrodco@new.rr.com)  
<http://www.cwtu.org/workdays.htm>*

### CWTU Board meeting “All about Fall Fishing” Tuesday, September 16, 2015

*Fin and Feather  
upstairs banquet area  
22W Main St, Winneconne, WI, 54986  
cwtu.org*

### CWTU Workday Saturday, September 19, 2015

*West Branch of the White  
Contact Scott Bahn at [sabahnrodco@new.rr.com](mailto:sabahnrodco@new.rr.com)  
<http://www.cwtu.org/workdays.htm>*

### CWTU Banquet Saturday, October 10, 2015

*BEST WESTERN PREMIER Waterfront Hotel &  
Convention Center  
Contact Laura Tucker (920) 540-5293*

**\*\*\*To list your conservation non-profit event in this newsletter, please contact Jeff Wegand at [jeffwegand@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffwegand@hotmail.com)**